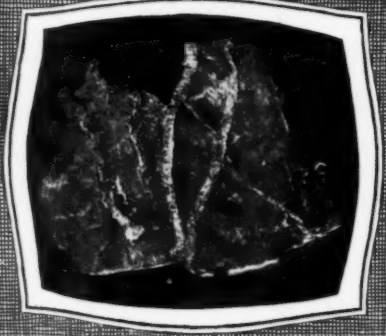
ASBESTOS

The Most Important Mineral in the World.

Vol. 8 MARCH 1927 No. 9



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... ASBESTOS ...

A MONTHLY MARKET JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ASBESTOS AND MAGNESIA INDUSTRIES

A. S. ROSSITER - - - EDITOR

PUBLISHED BY

C. J. STOVER

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The Clark Asbestos Company

George N. Clark, President

Eight years ago this month, two brothers, who were at that time employed by one of the larger asbestos firms, decided to step out of their salaried jobs and hustle for themselves.

These two men were George N. and Robert L. Clark. They were employed by the Keasbey & Mattison Company, George N. being General Manager, and Robert L., Sales Manager, of the Cleveland Branch of that Company.

It was in March 1919, therefore, that the Clark Asbestos Company was incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio, for the purpose of distributing Asbestos and Magnesia Products. George N. Clark was chosen as President of the Company, he having had twenty-six years experience in the Asbestos business, while Robert

L. whose Asbestos experience totals 20 years, was elected Manager.

At first only an office, a small room about eight by ten feet, was maintained, material being purchased as needed. After operating for about a year, however, the Clark Asbestos Company obtained the exclusive agency for Northern Ohio from one of the Magnesia Manufacturers, and thereupon took larger quarters, together with a small warehouse. In 1923 the business having grown quite rapidly, property was purchased by them in the center of the city, and a two story warehouse with 5,000 square feet of storage room and 2000 square feet of office space was erected.

Later the firm started the manufacture of Air Cell Coverings and Boards, and about two years ago roofing was added to the already rather complete line of Asbestos products, felts and building supplies.

When first organized the two Clarks did all the work themselves but at the present time employ several salesmen and thirty asbestos workers, for the application of pipe covering. They are doing about $250,000 worth of business annually.

Both Clarks are on the job all the time but nevertheless find time for their hobbies. Robert L. likes to play golf and is also fond of hunting. George N. finds his recreation in the Order of DeMolay, the chief object of which is the teaching of young men between the ages of 16 and 21, the practice of clean living, clean speaking and clean thinking, as a preparation for clean and patriotic citizenship.

In the October 1926 number of Chemiker Zeitung, a German paper, there appeared an article "The Production, Characteristics and Investigation of Burned Magnesite" (a detailed survey of the chemistry of magnesite including magnesia cement). If any of our readers are interested in this article, a translation can be obtained at a price.

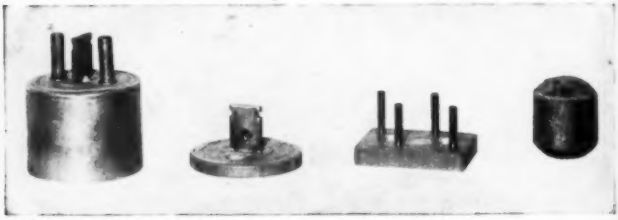
"Asbestos" is mailed on the 15th of each month. If you do not receive your copy within a reosonable time thereafter, write us.

A New High Frequency Insulator

Mycalex may be of interest to our readers because it competes with the various electrical insulators which contain asbestos in their makeup.

Mycalex has been developed for use in insulating against the high frequencies which are encountered in radio work. It is composed of ground mica and lead borate.

It is claimed that the material has better insulating properties than porcelain and is used in the manufacture of bases for radio transmitter tubes, for aerial insulators in high frequency work, and numerous similar applications. It is light gray in color with a metallic ring, and metal parts may be inserted or combined with Mycalex



during the process of molding. It is not as heat resistant as porcelain or mica but tests show it to be superior in this respect to the ordinary molded insulations made with phenolic resin, shellac, gums, etc.

The material is particularly recommended for use where the requirements demand an insulating material of high mechanical strength, dielectric strength and insulating resistance, low losses with high frequencies, heat resistance beyond the ordinary range of molded or sheet materials, and compact construction with metal inserts securely molded in place.

The Distribution of Asbestos

II. Storage or Warehousing—Manufactured Products

Conditions existent in the Asbestos market so far as storage or warehousing of materials are concerned, are entirely different in the finished goods end of the business from those followed in connection with the raw material.

In discussing the storing or warehousing of Asbestos Crudes and Fibres, we found that they were almost invariably used in carload quantities, which made public storage expensive, because of the amount of space which would naturally be required, and unnecessary, because a carload of material was used so quickly.

In the manufactured end, however, less car lots are the rule; some asbestos articles being practically never sold to the ultimate consumer in carload lots. It is seldom that the ultimate consumer would require a carload of gaskets or packing; the owner of a house would have to have a pretty sizeable one to use a carload of shingles. Of course there are many large building *operations* which require shingles or roofing in carload lots, and while a garageman would not buy a carload of brake lining, an automobile manufacturer would.

These perfectly natural conditions, therefore, make it desirable that stocks of various manufactured asbestos products be carried at various convenient points, for distribution by the contractor or distributor or branch office, to customers. In cases where a distributor handles all kinds of asbestos goods, a "mixed carload" is often shipped, the freight rate being less than the less carload rate if not as low as the carload rate. The distributor therefore distributes the gaskets, or brake lining, or packing, or whatnot, as calls come for them.

While in the insulation field the material is sold in larger quantities, often, in the case of industrial plants. in carload lots, most insulation contractors have their own warehouses where they store stocks of the sizes and kinds of pipe covering in most demand. And the same can be

said of the shingle division—roofers or contractors buying in carloads and distributing to their various jobs as needed.

Manipulators, such for instance as those who weave asbestos yarn into cloth or brake lining, but do not themselves spin the yarn, must of course buy the yarn in large quantities; and the same is true of the makers of the folded and stitched lining from cloth, or the gaskets and packing from cloth.

The storage, however, is very seldom what is known as "public storage", the contractors, distributors, or manipulators in most cases having their own warehouses, and their own trucks with which to haul the material to the warehouse and from the warehouse to the job.

In the last analysis, the storing of materials at various points costs the ultimate user little if any more than he would ordinarily pay for goods shipped direct from the factory. The saving in freight on carloads over less car lots is offset by the storage charges, and, naturally, even if the warehouse is owned by the contractor, distributor or branch, taxes, interest on investment and other overhead would constitute the storage charges.

It is necessary, however, that the contractor, distributor or branch office select the stock carefully, and keep a strict watch on it after selected, seeing that there is kept on hand only those materials which move rapidly and the sizes, styles, colors, etc., which show most demand. The ultimate idea, of course, is service, so that when a customer wants the material quickly, he will be able to get it in his own home town, or at least nearby, rather than wait until it can be shipped from the more or less distant factory.

Slow selling merchandise means slow turnover of money invested, which is not at all desirable, but a stock carefully selected will show quick turnover, meaning quick and frequent profits, and at the same time give quick service in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. In the hundredth case it may be necessary to substitute or have the customer wait until the material can be obtained from the factory.

Carefully selected stock also means increased sales because the material is on the spot.

After a few years experience it is comparatively easy to select a stock of any given commodity, insulation, shingles, roofings, brake lining, or a mixture of all of them, which will be in constant demand, and quickly turned. Any accumulation of slow selling material can generally be turned back to the factory from which it came, as the factory can more easily dispose of it and in the meantime keep it in better condition. While most Asbestos materials do not deteriorate rapidly, dust and dirt doesn't improve any of them, another reason for getting rid of them quickly.

The manufacturer who pursues the best merchandising methods will be especially careful to see that the stocks of his distributors or branches are selected and kept with the greatest of regard for demand. His distributor or branches, or special representatives, or whatever distribution factor he may use, will thus be kept from tying up capital in slow moving merchandise, losing money from damaged, shopworn or out of date goods, and paying storage charges on material of little value. Likewise, if the stocks at his distributing points move quickly, it will mean more money for the distributor, with consequent expansion of business, and, in turn, larger volume of sales for the manufacturer.

In such direct and devious ways does the storage and warehousing of materials affect cost, selling price, demand, sales, and, therefore, the whole distribution system.

FACT AND FANCY

Rich Rock in the Bell Mine.

The phenomenal output of Asbestos at the Bell Asbestos Mines in Canada, still continues to be the talk of the District and deserves further mention in our editorial pages.

During 1926 the production ran beyond 50,000 tons of marketable fibre. Starting with this year, the January output from this mine was more than 1100 tons of Asbestos greater than that of January a year ago. No more rock is being mined; in fact, less was mined in 1926 than in 1925, notwithstanding the much greater production of Asbestos Fibre, which is owing altogether to the phenomenal richness of the rock, the milling reports for some days in January showing more than 16 per cent of fibre in the rock crushed.

How long these high yields will continue is, of course, altogether problematical, but the continuously high yields this year have given rise to considerable comment thruout the Quebec Mining District.

A specimen from the "big vein" unearthed in the Bell Asbestos Mines has been added to our collection of Asbestos specimens. The vein measures over four inches in width.

An Old Friend Writes Us.

We were delighted the other day to have a communication from Mr. John F. Green, who has been mentioned in our pages on a number of occasions as conducting experiments on Asbestos.

Mr. Green celebrated his 88th birthday on February 29th, or at least he would have celebrated it if there had been any February 29th on which to celebrate.

The experiments which Mr. Green has been conducting are undoubtedly of value but up to the present time practically no commercial use has been made of them.

If anyone in the industry desires to get in touch with

Mr. Green, either in a purely personal way or in the interest of the experimental work he has been doing, we will be glad to supply his present address or arrange a meeting.

The Underwriters' Laboratories on Roof Coverings.

The Underwriters' Laboratories in its general report on 1926 activities has the following to say concerning roof covering materials:

The closing twelve months' work has brought about closer co-operation with manufacturers of roof covering materials, which promises to result in the establishment of a joint committee to provide a convenient means for discussion of subjects of common interest. A more clearly defined standard for laps and thicknesses of certain patterns of asphalt shingles has been adopted. Roof covering materials made in several additional factories have been placed in the list of inspected materials during the year.

Some roof covering materials are intended to be used in so-called "built-up" roof coverings, which are assembled on the roof decks which they are to protect. Other roof covering materials are of the "prepared" types, and are adapted for direct application to the roof decks. Within each group are several subdivisions. In order to present as clearly as practicable the characteristics of the various materials and the purposes for which they are adapted, there has been a complete revision of that portion of the Laboratories' List of Inspected Fire Protection Appliances that relates to roof covering materials, and all cards referring to such materials have been replaced by new cards corresponding to the new text in the list. The cards referred to carry summarized statements of the classifications; they are distributed to a large number of subscribers who receive in this way immediate information concerning the results of the Laboratories' Investigations.

Wanted: An Insulation for Bleach Kiers.

A contractor who has had quite some experience in insulation work where the insulating material must withstand acid, alkali, moisture and other drastic condi-

tions, is not entirely satisfied with the material he is using for these special insulating jobs.

The conditions described are encountered in the insulation of bleach kiers, tanks, pulp digesters, feed water heaters, etc.

The contractor in question has used several kinds of insulation material, and at present is applying either asbestos or magnesia covering, and an asphalt material over that for protection from the atmosphere, acid and alkaline liquors and general abuse. This method, however, is expensive, especially from a labor standpoint.

What is needed, in our correspondent's opinion, is an insulation with a hard finish that will stand up after years of service and will withstand acids, alkalies, moisture, steam at atmospheric pressure, reasonable abuse and the use such equipment would get around a paper mill or power plant; he appeals to the readers of "ASBESTOS" to help him out.

This may seem a big order, but possibly some of our readers have solved the problem, or have some ideas about solving it. We will gladly publish any suggestions on the subject or will supply the name of the contract or in order that communication may be direct.

Lawful or Unlawful Co-operation.

The uncertainty fostered by the diverse opinions of lawyers and courts entitles any business man to just about a million guesses as to what he may or may not lawfully do in the way of co-operating with his competitors.

Unrestricted, unintelligent competition has proven costly to producer, distributor and public. Combinations, trusts, even some trade association activity, have been found equally undesirable.

Government, when asked by business to define clearly just what may or may not be done lawfully, says "Go ahead and do it, and if we question it, action at law will be brought against you." In other words no agency of Government can or will pass upon, in advance, any plan submitted by business.

The U. S. Supreme Court, in deciding the Maple Flooring and Cement Protective Association cases, appar-

ently approved the Open Price Trade Association in principle. In these cases the Government failed to prove that there was price fixing, trade restraint, penalties imposed on members for non-compliance or limiting of output. It was admitted that the information made available by the collection and dissemination of data on production, sales, and shipments, had a tendency to stabilize prices and maintain a more healthy relation between production and demand.

Since the Court sanctioned the modus operandi employed by producers in Maple Flooring and Cement Associations, these cases are especially noteworthy and may relieve business to some extent.

It would seem that public education is the one safe and sane remedy for the evils of cut throat competition.

Don't Depend Too Much on Uncle Sam.

It is an almost unbreakable rule in the office of "ASBESTOS" that all letters are answered not later than two days after receipt. The few occasions where they are held over for longer than the second day may be due perhaps to non-receipt of samples, plates or other parcel post matter which were supposed to accompany the letter, or where the search for information with which to reply to the letter is the cause for delay altho in the latter case formal acknowledgment is practically always made at once, the information to follow later.

Therefore if you do not within a reasonable time receive a reply to any letter you addres us, it is a pretty sure bet that the letter has either been delayed in delivery or never received at all.

Only the other day we were advised of a communication which had been sent to us some time ago the nature of which was such that none of our staff would have forgotten it if it had been received.

Uncle Sam isn't infallible so give us the benefit of a doubt and when your letter is, apparently, receiving no attention, write us a second time for the information wanted.

MARKET CONDITIONS

General Business. Business in general is moving along in a fairly satisfactory manner. The automobile industry is seeing the effects of nice spring weather and from all indications promises to make a new record. Building, it is believed, will continue at about the same rate as in 1926. The steel industry is in good condition; freight loadings are higher week by week than in 1926. In fact none of the basic industries can seriously complain, with the exception of the textile lines, all of which are very greatly demoralized.

Asbestos—Raw Material. The raw material market is fairly satisfactory, prices firm, with tendency to advance, demand good—in some grades far ahead of supply.

Mr. E. J. Wilson, in commenting on the asbestos crude and fibre market says:

On the first of March there was a lively demand for all spinning material; all the facts indicate that there will not be enough to go around, provided the manufacturers have not overestimated their requirements and will use as much as they did in 1926. Taking the world production of spinning materials for 1926 there is only one mine that is at all likely to produce more in 1927; on the other hand one Company which shipped large quantities during the first six months of 1926 cannot by any possibility equal its 1926 production this year. The mining companies have practically no spinning material on hand, with the exception of a little No. 1 Crude. The stock of No. 1 is not large as it was shipped last fall and winter to make up for the shortage in No. 2 Crude. For the remainder of this year nearly all the spinning material must first be taken out of the ground and a good part of it transported many thousands of miles. This is a very unusual condition and should cause all the textile manufacturers considerable concern. The demand for shingle stock is now very good and most of the shorter grades are moving very well.

Manufactured Goods. Our manufacturing lines, generally speaking, are in good condition.

The market for paper is very steady, altho demand is not very great.

This time of year naturally shows a slackening in demand for insulation, particularly the low pressure variety used to large extent for house heating plants.

Prices in the low pressure line are rather low.

The market for Magnesia Pipe and Boiler Coverings, including Locomotive Laggings, continues steady. Demand is about as usual at this season of the year. One manufacturer has a published price of 63% f. o. b. factory, 50% to 58% f. o. b. various warehouses, dependent on freight and handling costs. We believe the market is fairly represented by the above quoted price range, viz: 50 to 63%.

The Textile line, meaning yarn, cloth, packings, etc., is quite active, all plants being busy.

The Asbestos Brake Lining Association in commenting on the situation in its division of the industry, says: "Replacement business is improving and more than offsetting any seasonable change in orders for equipment. All phases of activity in the industry are satisfactory, and prospect for 1928 equipment business is exceptionally good."

There is a production capacity exceeding demand in the brake lining industry, this condition having obtained for the last several years, due to the great expansion of manufacturing facilities, and resulting, naturally, in the material being sold on close margins.

The Asbestos Shingle line is just opening up for spring business and shingle manufacturers are anticipating unusually large volume of sales this year.

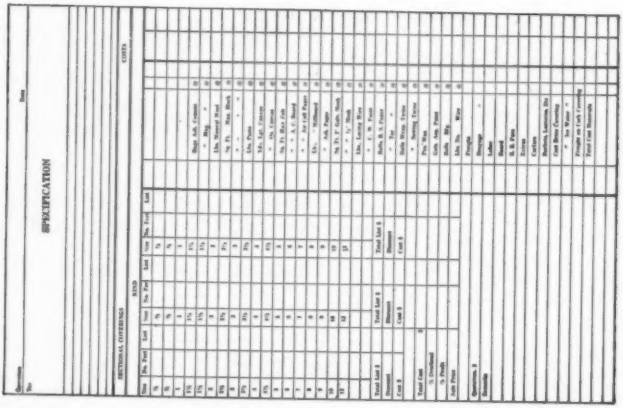
Altogether present and future prospects during 1927 look rather good, generally speaking, and we hope will continue to improve thruout the year.

ASBESTOS COVERING COMPANY

916-918 D Street N. W., Washington, D. C.

JOB

PIPING	⅛	¼	½	¾	1	1¼	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	6	7	8	9	10



CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

MEASUREMENT SHEET AND ESTIMATE FORM.

Both these forms are used by the Asbestos Covering Company of Washington, D. C., Frank H. Shipe, President.

The Measurement Sheet (top of page) is used by their estimator in tabulating pipe quantities, either when measuring from the piping on the job or in scaling blue prints. These sheets are then retained with the estimating sheets for verification. Frequently, in estimating from blue prints, the contract is placed with the company on its preliminary estimate, but it is found that the piping lay-out has been changed materially, affecting the cost. By retaining these original measurement sheets, it is very easy to detect any changes. The original is 4¾ x 8 inches.

The second form shown is the **General Estimate Sheet.** The original measures 8½ x 13¼ inches. Three columns have been provided for pipe covering quantities, since in many cases a number of different kinds of covering is used on one job. For instance 3 ply Air Cell may be used on the hot water, Wool Felt on the cold water plumbing, and perhaps 4 ply Air Cell or 85% Magnesia Covering on the heating lines.

The Asbestos Covering Company has tried to embody in this estimate sheet almost every item that might enter into a covering contract job, believing that by having these items before them in print, they guard against the omission of any item of expense that may occur in the execution of the job.

We suggest a careful study of these two forms. It might also be a good idea to tear from the magazine each month the page on which these various forms are reproduced, and file these pages either in a binder or folder so that as other forms of the same kind are published they may be compared and, if desired, the best features of each adopted in your own.

Wage Notes: According to reports from the American Contractor, there were no reported changes in wage rates in any trade, all over the country, at the first of February. It is unusual to have no reported changes at the first of any month.

Cleveland, O. Agreement with asbestos workers expired March 1st, and new working agreement is at present under consideration but not definite rates or contracts have as yet been accepted.

Send us news. It will interest others and the news of others will interest you.

ASBESTOS

This page devoted each month to the discussion of brake lining activities by O. B. Towne, Commissioner of the Asbestos Brake Lining Association

The Asbestos Brake Lining Association is pleased to announce the addition of two members to the fold. The Manhattan Rubber Company, of Passaic, N. J., and Ferodo & Asbestos, Inc., of New Brunswick, N. J., are the new members.

At a recent conference at Detroit, held to discuss the simplification of automobile parts, the A. B. L. A. was well represented and went on record at that time, advocating a unit of measurement for efficiency of brakes, this to be used as a determining factor in the size and power of brakes and brake lining in the various cars; also that there should be uniformity of steel used in the brake mechanism, particularly the brake drums. It was emphasized that greater attention should be paid to certain vital points of brake mechanism and lining upon which the burden is placed. It was reported that there is a tendency at the present time in brake mechanism to improve the steel of the brake drum as well as to reduce the number of sizes of drums and brake linings used to a minimum number and standardize on the burden to be borne.

With the coming of spring and the exodus of cars from winter storage into the country, brake testing campaigns are very important and are most essential at this particular time of the year. Many cities are making their plans for these campaigns now and are looking forward to a general clean-up of the faulty brake situation in the early spring.

The Findlay, Ohio, Schools, have opened up a new phase of the brake testing campaigns. They are desirous of putting on an extensive campaign in the city and doing educational work along this line in schools.

The Data Book of the Association containing brake lining and clutch facing specifications on all the new 1927 cars will be ready for distribution shortly after the 1st of April.

Census Classification of Asbestos Materials

The method employed by the U. S. Bureau of Census in reporting certain asbestos materials when the last census of manufacturers was taken, appeared to be very indefinite, and confusing.

In fact, the last census grouped Asbestos Paper with ordinary Paper and Wood Pulp, separate figures being given for the Asbestos material, while for some unknown reason it lumped steam and other packing, pipe and boiler covering and gaskets all together, notwithstanding the fact that pipe and boiler covering are only in a few instances manufactured by the same firms which make packing and gaskets.

Correspondence with the Bureau of Census has resulted in a request from that Bureau for assistance in properly classifying Asbestos Materials in their next Census. In fact they tell us that the number of requests received by the Bureau for information on asbestos products has led them to believe provision should be made for obtaining specific data on such products, in whatever industry they may be manufactured.

As a beginning we have suggested that the schedules be made up in such manner as will obtain separate figures on the following Asbestos Products:

Yarn.
Textiles (except brake lining).
Brake Lining.
Fabric Packing.
Packing (not fabric).
Paper and Millboard.
Pipe and Boiler Covering.
Cement.
Shingles, Slate, Wood and Lumber.
Flexible Roofing.
85% Magnesia Pipe and Boiler Covering.
Other Asbestos Manufactures.

This schedule has been worked out from the items used by the U. S. Government in their Tariff Schedules, the

tariff schedules having proven fairly satisfactory.

The Census Bureau is grateful for any information or suggestions which will assist them in the proper classifications and scheduling of Asbestos Products, and if any of our readers can make helpful suggestions, we will be glad to pass them on to the Census Bureau, or if you prefer, write direct to LeVerne Beales, Chief Statistician for Manufacturers, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington.

The Asbestos Industry in 1876

There has recently come into our hands a page from the April 22nd, 1876 number of the Scientific American, containing an article on "The Industrial Uses of Asbestos."

The article is very well written and, considering that it was written 51 years ago, contains little misinformation.

The paragraph of most interest to our readers is quoted below and shows the spirit of one of the early asbestos manufacturers.

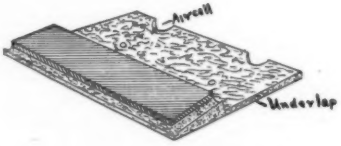
"It is to Mr. H. W. Johns, of New York City, that the credit of first using asbestos for industrial purposes on a large scale is due. Some years ago that gentleman invented a cement in which one of the ingredients was asbestos. Asbestos, however, despite its abundance, was then exceedingly difficult to obtain. It could be purchased only in small quantity at a high price, and certainly offered no very promising prospects of an adequate supply should a large demand for the cement be realized. Nothing daunted by this scarcity, the inventor advertised his cement widely, through the Scientific American and other journals; and the result of his advertisements (as with considerable shrewdness he had anticipated) was not merely an augmented sale of his invention but an avalanche of letters from all quarters of the globe, in which the writers mentioned deposits of asbestos in their vicinity, and offered supplies. Thus, ere very long, Mr. Johns became possessed of abundant facilities for obtain-

ing any quantity of the mineral, and was free to proceed with the experimenting which led to the other and more important utilizations."

Bryk-Lyk Air Cell Veneering*

An article which will not crack like stucco, eliminates the "thin" appearance of asbestos, wood or flexible shingles, and, unlike weather boarding, need not be painted, has been designed and patent applied for by W. A. Stoehr of Pittsburg, Pa.

The material is an asbestos cement product, therefore fireproof, waterproof and durable. It is inexpensive, easy to apply. Its air cell feature makes it an insulator, and while fastened by nails the underlap holds it in place if the nails should corrode and drop out.



Perhaps the most important feature of this material, from a sales point of view, is its appearance. When applied it resembles brick, a frame house veneered with Bryk-Lyk giving the appearance of a beautiful, substantial brick dwelling.

It is doubtful whether an adequate idea of the material can be gained from the illustration given, but full description with additional drawings are in the office of "ASBESTOS" and will be lent to anyone interested.

Bryk-Lyk is not at present on the market, the inventor of the material submitting it to the Asbestos Industry for opinion as to its marketing possibilities.

The patent can be purchased on a royalty basis.

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* This material was given brief mention on page 46 of the February number.

The European Asbestos Shingle Industry

COMMENTS BY DR. GERHARD ROSENBAUM
of Puchov, Czecho-Slovakia *

From all accounts, the chief troubles of the Asbestos Shingle Industry in both Europe and America seem to be unsatisfactory prices and keen competition.

In Europe competition is possibly even keener than in America and prices high compared with other commodities, but without showing adequate profit.

Thirty years ago when asbestos shingles were first produced, manufacturers imagined they had an article which took little capital and netted a good profit. Naturally such a condition, even tho an imaginary one, attracted many other firms into the business, resulting in spite of constantly increasing demand, in over-production.

Disputes over the priority of patents, with resultant belittling of competitors' goods, resulted in the public gaining an impression that asbestos shingles were not a high grade product.

Then there was the second form of competition—that with the ordinary roofing materials, such as wood shingles, slate, tile, and in the agricultural districts, straw. In the farming districts where wood and straw were the principal roofing materials it was comparatively easy to convince the farmers of the greater durability of asbestos shingles and therefore of their greater cheapness in spite of the high first cost. It was, and is, much more difficult to compete with slate or tile.

The prices of asbestos shingles are high in European countries as compared with slate and tile, partly because of the cost of asbestos fibres and also the high freight. As a matter of fact the freight from a European port to any asbestos shingle mill in Central Europe is more than 15% of the price of the asbestos itself. Therefore factories situated inland cannot hope to compete for business overseas.

* Dr. Rosenbaum plans to send us other articles from time to time on conditions in the Asbestos Shingle Industry in Europe.

If, however, the mill is situated at or near a seaport, then it is probably distant from a cement plant, making the freight on the cement high.

It is necessary, therefore, for anyone contemplating the manufacture of shingles in Europe, to take into consideration the freight on his raw materials, and the fact that he is unable to make a reasonable profit on the shingles unless he sells them within his own country, or at least within reasonable distance of his factory. He must also establish a firm source of supply for his raw materials—cement and asbestos—and one on which he can depend to give him the proper grade of these materials.

The Double "EE" Research Laboratories have recently been established at Fullerton, Calif., prepared to handle metallurgical work of all kinds, assays and analyses, as well as surveys, engineering estimates, commercial processes and cost accountings with processes installed. The Laboratories is particularly interested in complex ores, their slogan being "If it's in we'll get it."

Imports into U. S. A.

Unmanufactured Asbestos.

	January 1926 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	January 1927 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
Africa (Br. S.)	319	$ 54,506	209	$ 28,430
Africa (Port. E.)	66	13,304	210	46,773
Canada	17,966	602,847	13,531	510,115
Germany	20	4,752	96	23,969
United Kingdom	3	1,842	44	8,056
	18,374	$677,251	14,090	$617,343

Of the January 1926 importations, all the material from Germany, the United Kingdom and Portuguese East Africa was Crude, while that from British South Africa consisted of 39 tons of Crude, valued at $9,159, and 170 tons of Mill Fibre, valued at $19,271, and material imported from Canada, consisted of 417 tons of Crude, valued at $119,855, 5,599 tons of Mill Fibre, valued at $277,212 and 7,515 tons of lower grades, valued at $113,048.

Manufactured Asbestos.

	January 1926 Pounds	Value	January 1927 Pounds	Value
Yarn—				
Germany	...	...	662	$ 596
United Kingdom	17,924	$ 5,408	25,627	7,434
Fabrics, Woven—				
Germany	...	...	99	136
United Kingdom	4,233	1,839	20,407	9,404
Packing, Fabric—				
Austria	8	8	...	...
Canada	12	6	4	6
United Kingdom	301	347	...	...
Packing, Not Fabric—				
United Kingdom	117	114	569	230
Paper and Millboard	...	...	...	...
Shingles, Slate, Wood and Lumber—				
Belgium	1,451,506	22,327	2,794,257	36,351
Canada	72,063	2,878	39,650	1,563

	January 1926 Pounds	Value	January 1927 Pounds	Value
France	...	...	671,664	10,010
Germany	55,628	997	236,958	4,496
Netherlands	...	...	8,097	166
	1,579,197	26,202	3,750,626	52,586
Asbestos Cement—				
Belgium	59,280	1,251	13,500	172
Italy	140,528	3,330	...	...
Other Manufactures—				
Canada	500	34	789	72
France	...	..	10	20
Germany	...	..	28,649	2,459
Netherlands	8,612	222	...	...
Switzerland	...	...	550	140
United Kingdom	6,572	2,270	8,847	9,180
	15,684	2,526	38,845	11,871
Grand Total	*1,817,284*	*$41,031*	*3,850,339*	*$82,435*

Exports from U. S. A.

Exports of unmanufactured Asbestos during the month of **December** 1926 amounted to 285 tons valued at $16,955, as compared with 1 ton, valued at $100. exported during December 1925.

Total exports of unmanufactured asbestos for the year 1926 amounted to 986 tons, valued at $85,922; compared with 990 tons, valued at $70,846. exported during 1925.

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	December 1925 Pounds	Value	December 1926 Pounds	Value
Paper, Mlbd. & Rlbd..	155,069	$12,202	96,988	$ 9,933
Pipe Covg. & Cement.	412,089	28,773	411,028	22,669
Textiles, Yarn & Pkg.	82,194	50,055	160,832	76,487
Brake & Clutch Lin'g.	112,968	82,739	139,520	93,938
Magnesia & Mfrs. of .	525,599	32,568	675,307	40,009
Asbestos Roofing	9,793 sqs.	62,625	8,420 sqs.	56,906
Other Manufactures..	130,372	24,837	116,900	24,821

	For the Year 1925 Pounds	Value	For the Year 1926. Pounds	Value
Paper, Mlbd. & Rlbd.	2,159,826	$119,311	1,791,519	$153,046
Pipe Covg. & Cement	4,553,452	280,082	4,265,600	257,128

ASBESTOS

	For the Year 1926 Pounds	Value	For the Year 1927. Pounds	Value
Textiles, Yarn & Packing	1,369,738	803,037	1,449,852	813,993
Brake & Clutch Lining	1,203,299	863,078	1,520,872	1,040,425
Magnesia & Mfrs. of	5,264,203	316,978	6,579,221	323,386
Asbestos Roofing	79,170 sqs.	521,766	94,514 sqs.	556,774
Other Manufactures	2,178,744	342,151	2,804,499	337,062

Imports and Exports by England.

Imports of Raw Material:

	January 1926 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	January 1927 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
From Rhodesia	920	£34,114	1,019	£33,631
From Canada	353	6,028	441	6,802
From Other Countries	458	13,318	576	12,601
Total	1,731	£53,460	2,036	£53,034
Re-Shipments	214	9,223	313	9,087

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	January 1926 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	January 1927 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
To Netherlands	14	£ 1,957	49	£ 4,762
To France	55	9,731	20	3,632
To U. S. A.	15	2,465	21	6,030
To British India	550	12,693	970	18,477
To Australia	33	5,891	59	7,551
To Other Countries	1,054	54,749	1,264	59,312
Total	1,721	£87,486	2,383	£99,764

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada.

	December 1925 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	December 1926 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
United Kingdom	110	$ 24,300	190	$ 13,450
United States	7,681	405,806	8,528	501,295
Australia	180	11,317	...	...
Belgium	50	2,250	737	44,600
Denmark	...	...	66	3,300
France	763	64,770	615	49,725
Germany	269	31,490	977	70,000
Italy	321	23,310	75	4,125
Japan	80	8,120	850	47,475

	December 1925 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	December 1926 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Mexico	...	...	25	1,750
Netherlands	140	9,250	63	8,700
Other Countries	...	...	...	...
	9,594	$580,613	12,126	$744,420
Asbestos Sand and Waste—				
United Kingdom	160	3,110	420	9,713
United States	11,116	159,932	11,944	174,219
France	90	1,590	80	1,775
Germany	300	4,950	232	5,805
Netherlands	...	...	92	1,800
Other Countries	...	...	30	750
	11,666	$169,582	12,798	$194,062
Grand Total	*21,260*	*$750,195*	*24,924*	*$938,482*

	For Year 1925 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	For Year 1926 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
United Kingdom	6,846	$ 608,774	7,710	$ 575,866
United States	94,292	4,979,303	92,897	5,295,168
Australia	1,360	96,272	1,605	116,250
Belgium	6,002	370,530	10,033	628,981
Denmark	100	5,500	126	6,600
France	5,484	438,195	6,860	481,145
Germany	8,947	737,802	12,537	900,104
Italy	3,730	260,263	3,671	242,482
Japan	7,127	373,312	4,518	250,714
Mexico	25	1,500	80	5,450
Netherlands	2,707	212,855	1,723	167,050
Spain	130	7,800	...	...
	136,750	$8,092,106	141,760	$8,669,810
Asbestos Sand and Waste—				
United Kingdom	1,863	34,490	1,579	35,467
United States	115,587	1,490,341	120,781	1,743,635
Belgium	221	4,090	10,961	151,168
France	229	3,658	351	7,517
Germany	2,173	36,925	1,656	34,718
Italy	70	1,400	123	2,775
Netherlands	1,056	20,160	720	15,850
Other Countries	68	1,222	60	1,350
	121,267	$1,592,286	136,231	$1,992,480
Grand Total	*258,017*	*$9,684,392*	*277,991*	*$10,662,290*

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Rhodesia (Rhodesia Chamber of Mines)

	November 1926 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Bulawayo District.		
Biltong (Vukwe Asb. Syn. Ltd.)	15	£ 240
Nil Desperandum (Afr. Asb. Min. Co. Ltd.)	393	6,096
Pangani (J. S. Hancock)	31	417
Recompense (F. E. Dunsmuir)	30	360
Shabanie (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	594	10,620
Lomagundi District.		
Ethel (Union & Rho. Tr. Ltd.) Oct.-Nov.	70	1,762
Victoria District.		
Gath's (R. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	609	12,189
King (R. & Gen. Asb. Corp. Ltd.)	373	7,111
	2,115	£38,795
November 1925	3,515	£82,406

Union of South Africa (Dept. Mines & Industries)

	November 1926 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Transvaal (Amosite)	213	£ 2,039
" (Chrysotile)	514	6,603
Cape (Blue)	368	8,038
	1,095	£16,680
November 1925	847	£15,562

Cyprus (Cyprus Asbestos Co.)

Production for December 1926— 147 tons (2240 lbs.).
Production for the year 1926—6197 tons (2240 lbs.).
Production for the year 1925—3221 tons (2240 lbs.).
Production for January 1927—None.

Canada. Preliminary Statement on Mineral Production in the Province of Quebec during 1926, reaches us just as we go to press, and we will therefore give the figures briefly in this issue; the details and graph illustrating comparative production of various Asbestos producing countries to be published in April.

According to this statement 4,479,138 tons of rock were mined during 1926, giving a production of all grades of Asbestos (not including Asbestic), of 299,658 tons or 6.6%. During 1925, 4,121,258 tons of rock were mined, giving a production of 267,328 tons of Asbestos, 6.4%.

Shipments and sales of all grades (except Asbestic) during 1926 were 278,686 tons; during 1925, 273,522 tons.

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

Birthdays. Our birthday list this month contains the following names: A. J. Bromberg, President, Crown Asbestos Corporation, New York City, whose birthday date is March 19th; John F. Bolger, vice president, Allbestos Corporation, Philadelphia, March 27th; A. S. Farmer, President & Treasurer, Conneross Yarn Mill, Anderson, S. C., April 3rd; A. W. Jack, president, Republic Asbestos Board Corporation, Buffalo, N. Y., April 8th; to all of which gentlemen we extend most hearty congratulations.

Societe Anonyme "Asbestile" of 69, Rue Ducale, Brussels, Belgium, advises that their Manager, G. Rossignol, will visit the States within the next month, in order to get in touch with Canadian Asbestos Fibre Producers and American Shingle Importers. Communications addressed to Mr. Rossignol after March 15th, should be sent to the office of "ASBESTOS", with which office Mr. Rossignol will be in touch constantly during his stay in this country.

Dr. Richard V. Mattison, who fifty years ago declined a professorship in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, because he felt that he was "too young" has just refused the Presidency of this College, because he now feels that he is "too old", he having recently celebrated his 75th birthday.

Wm. N. Ennis, formerly Vice President and Secretary of the Asbestos Construction Company, Inc., of 451 W. 28th street, New York City, has severed his connections with that Company as of January 31st, 1927 and will advise shortly his new business address.

The Asbestos Manufacturing Company is the new name of the organization located at 3109 Highland Avenue, Tampa, Fla., which was formerly known as the Tampa Asbestos Company. J. W. Barber, Jr., whom many of our readers will remember, is Secretary and Engineer of this firm.

Thomas D. Stone, President of the Stone Industrial Equipment Company of Springfield, Mass., owing to a great increase in business in the territory the company covers, has found it necessary, recently, to spend about half of his time in the company's Brooklyn Office, with frequent trips to Philadelphia and points south.

Mr. Stone reports that if business in Pennsylvania continues to increase, the company will likely open a branch in Pittsburg. While this has not been definitely decided at the moment, offices in the House Building, Pittsburg, have been looked over with that end in view, and if a branch is established in Pittsburg, that office will have charge of the Central territory.

Richard V. Mattison, Jr., Vice President and General Manager of Keasbey & Mattison Company, Ambler, Pa., with Mrs. Mattison returned on February 27th, from a trip to Bermuda.

Societa-Italo-Russa per l'Amianto, of Leumann (Torino), Italy, announce that Bertolaia & Godert, 59 Pearl Street, New York City, have recently been appointed as their New York Agents.

Societa Italo-Russa are now manufacturing yarn and fabrics; guaranteed to be chemically pure, of Amosite Asbestos, this being a recent addition to their general line of fine threads for cables and other electric appliances, specially prepared threads for incandescence, asbestos fabrics of all kinds, packings, red joint packing, special cardboards of Canadian and Italian white and brown asbestos; fibres of Italian asbestos; special fibres for filtering wines and liquors; brake strips and coupling-disks for automobiles, etc. Engineer Remo Nodari is General Manager of the Company.

Henry N. Winner. Rather belatedly we are informed of the death of Henry N. Winner, General Manager of the Garlock Packing Company, Palmyra, N. Y., his death having occurred in Philadelphia on November 12th, 1926, after a very brief illness. Mr. Winner was born in Brooklyn on September 19th, 1879, and spent his entire business life in the mechanical packing business.

Stone Industrial Equipment Co. William J. Stone, Boston representative of the Stone Industrial Equipment Company of Springfield, has recently been elected Vice President in charge of sales in the Boston Metropolitan District. Mr. Stone will have complete charge of sales and contracts in connection with insulation and engineering specialties, his office address being 55 Humboldt Avenue, Roxbury, Mass. The Metropolitan District includes Boston, all points north and south to Worcester.

L. R. Hoff, Vice President, Johns-Manville Corporation, returned on February 23rd from a six weeks trip to the Far West, having gone clear to the Coast, all in the interest of business.

W. Reid Hayden. It is with much regret that we announce

the death, on Monday, March 7th, of W. Reid Hayden of Baltimore, Md. Mr. Hayden, who operated as a contractor and distributor for Johns-Manville Corporation's materials in Baltimore, died quite suddenly, having been stricken with pneumonia.

Sall Mountain Company of Chicago, have recently added to their sales force, S. P. Hinckley, N. A. Kilby, working New England territories out of the Boston Office, and Louis Rothbart and H. E. Hollingsworth, working the New Jersey and New York territories out of the New York Office. These men represent the full line of Asphalt Shingles and Roofings and Asbestos Insulating Materials manufactured by the Sall Mountain Company. We heartily welcome them to the Asbestos Industry.

General Asbestos & Rubber Company of North Charleston, S. C., announces the elevation of M. B. Barkley to the Presidency of the company, E. H. Jeffords to the Vice Presidency and J. C. Bremer, Secretary.

The Lucerne Asbestos Company, Limited, of Johannesburg, South Africa, is offering for inspection and opinion, samples of fair grades of Amosite and Blue Asbestos.

The Reinforced Cement Corrugated Sheet Company, Limited, Halling, Rochester, Kent, England, registered on July 7th, 1926, for the manufacture of Asbestos Cement Sheets, and tiles, and the marketing of Asbestos Cement Pipes, fittings and Reinforced Asbestos Cement Corrugated Sheets, announces the following as its present directors: A. Batchelor, "Bleak House", Broadstairs; J. W. R. Wright, "St. Quentin," First avenue, Gillingham and A. H. J. Wright, "Medvezo Gora", Hermitage road, Higham.

The Asbestos Corporation Limited publishes its annual report for 1926, and we give below Balance Sheet as of December 31, 1926:

ASSETS		
Investments (inc. Dom. Gov't. Bonds)	$1,129,688.68	
Inventories Asbestos Matls. Sup.	1,178,085.45	
Accounts and Bills Receivable	661,040.58	
Cash	327,052.05	$3,295,866.76
Sinking Fund Cash in hands of Trus.	13,338.70	
Other amounts dep. Trust Deeds	6,217.13	19,555.83
Deferred Charges to Operations		56,160.96
Mineral Areas, Real Estate, Plant and equip. less reserves for depreciation and exhaustion		20,435,145.25
		23,806,728.80
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	259,450.76	
Accrued Liabilities	27,493.75	
Preferred Dividend (paid Jan. 15, 1927)	130,481.75	417,426.26
Reserves for Contingencies and Govt. Taxes		161,521.61
Funded Debt		7,810,142.17
Preferred Stock ($12,000,000 authorized)		7,456,400.00
Common Stock (200,000 No Par Value)	7,756,010.42	
Surplus Profits for 11 Mos. ending Dec. 31, 1926	205,228.34	7,961,238.76
		$23,806,728.80

G. B. Crabbs, president of the Philip Carey Company, has been working unceasingly and untiringly for the past several months on the Cincinnati Railway Terminal development. Cincinnati papers of February 22 announce his success in obtaining the approval of the plans for the enlargement of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad bridge which spans the Ohio river between Cincinnati and Covington, Kentucky, which approval assures the success of the Cincinnati Terminal project and means much to the future of Cincinnati. This is not the first time that Mr. Crabbs has given unstintedly and freely of his time and energy for Cincinnati's public good.

PATENTS

Pipe Insulation. No. 1,613,725. Granted on January 11th, to C. R. Sabin, Alexandria, Ind., assignor to the General Insulating & Mfg. Company, Alexandria, Ind., Filed November 23, 1922. Serial No. 602,746.

Described as the method of preparing pipe insulation which consists in placing two curved walls in parallel relation, securing a permanent brace to the walls to extend between the space separating them along the median line thereof, packing mineral wool into the space between the two walls on either side of said brace, securing additional braces in position between the walls at the outer edge portions thereof above the filling of insulating material, then securing a sheet of insulated paper to the inner surface of the inner wall and extending the ends of said paper over the space between the walls and securing the extreme end portions to the outer surface of the outer wall.

Brake Lining. No. 1,615,165. Granted on January 18th to Jos. Y. Case, Orting, Wash.. Filed April 5, 1926. Serial No. 99,903.

Described as the method of producing brake linings from wooden strips in which the strips are subjected to an eight hour treatment in neutral oil, creosote and rosin and the mixture brought to a boiling point and the proportions thereof are one gallon of neutral oil, ¼ gallon of creosote and ⅛ gallon of rosin.

BUILDING STATISTICS

During January 1927, contracts were awarded in the 37 Eastern States, covering 9,276 projects, 53,262,600 square feet of floor space, valued at $384,455,400.

It is somewhat interesting to compare these figures with those for January 1926, which were 8,829 projects, 65,560,200 square feet, valued at $457,158,600.

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Production of Automobiles during January 1927 was 249,506, consisting of 208,718 passenger cars and 40,788 trucks. Of these the United States Production was 196,973 passenger cars and 37,157 trucks, a total of 234,130; the Canadian production being 11,745 passenger cars and 2,631 trucks, totalling 15,376.

The above figures compare with production in December 1926 of 173,574 motor vehicles, and in January 1926 of 318,220.

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